

(a) whether it is a fact that G.C.S. posts are filled on inadequate circulation; arbitrary relaxation of cooling off period, part-time experience, qualification etc;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken so that experienced and qualified officer who never had a chance to be on deputation are selected and the system ensures transparency and equality of opportunity guaranteed under Article 16 of Constitution; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the G.C.S. officers are put to disadvantageous position due to a decade's delay in regular promotion as Under-Secretary and they deserve consideration for JAG post in G.C.S. based on their service as Section Officer for more than 13 years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) GCS posts are filled on regular basis by circulating the vacancies in the Employment News. The candidates are selected in accordance with the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Regular promotions to the grade of Under Secretary of CSS have not been made after 1986 Panel because of litigation over the dispute relating to inter-seniority of Direct Recruit and Promotee Section Officers.

As the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules have to be followed, all eligible persons fulfilling the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules, are given due consideration for JAG posts in GCS. In case of CSS officers also, the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules are being followed.

[English]

Completion of on-going Railway Projects

2176. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate funds are being provided by the Government for faster completion of the on-going projects of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay to complete these projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) Constraints of resources.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Projects	Funds provided in 96-97	Funds provided in 97-98	Remarks/Reasons for delay
New Lines:				
1.	Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana	4.75	5.00	Land acquisition
2.	Mandar Hill-Rampurhat via Dumka	1.00	5.00	—
Doubling				
3.	Sahibganj-new Farakka-Malda Town	1.00	1.00	Encroachment and flood damage
4.	Sonenagar-Mughalsarai-Third line	12.00	28.00	Limited availability of traffic/power blocks/speed restrictions/non interlocked working due to over saturated section.
5.	Khana-Sainthia (Phase-I)	1.43	4.00	Court case by contractor in Calcutta High Court.
6.	Jhaptardal-Guskara (Phase-II)	1.00	4.00	Failure of Consecutive Contractors
7.	Chandanpur-Gurup-Third line	1.00	1.00	—
8.	Guskara-Bolpur (Phase-III)	1.73	4.50	—

Free Lance Artists

2177. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Free Lance Artists are also preparing programmes for Delhi Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these Artists have been given Identity Cards by the Delhi Doordarshan; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of programmes are got produced for Delhi Doordarshan by outside producers under various categories viz. Commissioned, Sponsorship and Royalty etc. The details of such producers are not maintained centrally.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Identity Cards are issued to regular employees and the employees working on casual assignments such as programme production staff/news readers/announcers etc. Issuing identity Cards to outside producers is neither necessary nor feasible.

Construction of Postal Buildings

2178. SHRI R.L.P. VARMA:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have acquired land for the construction of postal buildings at village Naliya, Khavada, Kera, Kukma and Lakadia in Kutch district of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether construction has been started there;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, since when the proposals are pending alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which Post Offices are likely to be shifted in their own buildings in the above villages?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) Plots of land have been acquired by the Government in the following villages of Kutch district of the dates mentioned against each.

S.No.	Name of Village	Date of acquisition
1.	Naliya	15.05.1992
2.	Kera	18.07.1983
3.	Kukma	10.01.1983
4.	Khavada	09.07.1981

No site has been acquired in village Lakadia.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Due to paucity of funds, construction could not be taken up by the Department. Further, the construction of the postal buildings depend on the availability of funds & priority of the projects.

[Translation]

STD to Development Blocks

2179. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA:
GULAM MOHD. MIR MAGANI:
SHRI C. NARASIMHAN:
SHRI N.J. RATHWA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link all the development blocks of each State with STD facility by the end of 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the number of development blocks wherein STD facility was provided during the year 1996;

(d) the number of STD centres functioning in rural areas in the country, State-wise; and

(e) the details of the policy being adopted for starting more STD centres in the country?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected. The same shall be put on the Table of the House soon.

(e) —STD PCO's on franchise basis are being provided on demand if found technically and administratively feasible.

—STD is being provided on Village Panchayat Telephones on demand on franchise basis where ever it is technically and administratively feasible.

—It is also proposed to cover all Telephone Exchanges with STD facility during the 9th Plan period.

Promotion of Tourism In Uttar Pradesh

2180. SHRI SOHAN BEER:
SHRI L. RAMANA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects cleared in Uttar Pradesh for the promotion of tourism during the Eighth Five Year Plan;